

# **Idaho's Brightest Stars**

## ***Awards Ceremony***



**January 15, 2020**

*Hosted by*  
**Serve Idaho**

*The Governor's Commission on Service & Volunteerism*



# ***The 2020 Idaho's Brightest Star Awards Ceremony***

*January 15, 2020*

The 2020 Idaho's Brightest Star Awards Ceremony is proudly presented by  
Serve Idaho, The Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism, a  
division of the Idaho Department of Labor.



## **2020 Idaho's Brightest Star Committee**

**Charlette Kremer**—Committee Chair, Serve Idaho Commissioner  
**Amanda Schmierer**—Community Member, YMCA of Treasure Valley  
**Amy Little**—Serve Idaho Ex-Officio Commissioner  
**Blenda Davis**—Community Member  
**Brady Fuller**—Serve Idaho Commissioner  
**Evin Bask**—Community Member, Idaho Nonprofit Center  
**Farhana Hibbert**—Serve Idaho Commissioner  
**Kathryn Hampton**—Community Member, Idaho Parks & Recreation  
**Katie Roberts**—Serve Idaho Commissioner  
**Kayeloni Scott**—Serve Idaho Commissioner  
**Kirstin Mann**—Serve Idaho Project Coordinator  
**Renee Bade**—Serve Idaho Executive Director  
**Shanna Endow**—Community Member, Easter Seals-Goodwill



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## ***Idaho's Brightest Star Awards Ceremony***

January 15, 2020 • 6 p.m.

Boise State University, Student Union Building • Simplot Ballroom  
Boise

<b>Welcome</b>	<i>Kimber Russell, Serve Idaho Commission Chair</i>
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	<i>Rachel Garceau, Weather Anchor; KIVI TV</i>
<b>Celebration of Service</b>	<i>Lieutenant Governor Janice McGeachin</i>
<b>Recognition of Nominees</b>	<i>Teacher/Professor</i>
	<i>Business</i>
	<i>Nonprofit/Civic Organization</i>
	<i>Veteran</i>
	<i>Student</i>
	<i>Individual 55+</i>
	<i>Individual</i>
<b>Presentation of Idaho's Brightest Star Awards</b>	<i>Lieutenant Governor Janice McGeachin</i> <i>Kimber Russell, Commission Chair</i> <i>Charlette Kremer, Committee Chair</i>
<b>Gov. Cecil D. Andrus Volunteer of the Year</b>	<i>Presented by Tracy Andrus</i>
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<i>Charlette Kremer, Serve Idaho, Committee Chair</i>





# ***Serve Idaho***

*The Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism*

## ***Our Mission***

Serve Idaho, The Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism encourages volunteerism and community service throughout Idaho.

To achieve this mission, Serve Idaho promotes collaborative efforts among private and nonprofit organizations, schools and state and local government agencies to advance national service programs and volunteerism throughout the state.

The Serve Idaho Commission administers Idaho's AmeriCorps State Grants program, provides technical assistance to volunteer managers at the annual Serve Idaho Conference and celebrates the extraordinary contributions of Idaho volunteers through the annual Idaho's Brightest Star Awards. Serve Idaho is funded in part by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Idaho Department of Labor and other partners.



## ***History***

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne and the Governor's Coordinating Council for Families and Children established the Governor's Brightest Star Awards in 2001, in partnership with the Association of Idaho Cities, to recognize Idaho's "unsung heroes" who volunteer tirelessly on behalf of children and families. In 2015, the name was changed from "Governor's Brightest Stars" to "Idaho's Brightest Stars."

The tradition of these awards has continued and grown to celebrate and affirm all types of voluntary citizen service by individuals of all ages.

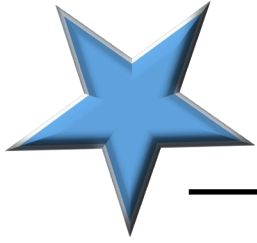
The Idaho's Brightest Star Awards Program is presented by Serve Idaho, the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism.



## **Serve Idaho Staff**

Kimberly Empey—Grants Officer  
Kirstin Mann— Project Coordinator  
Lisa Biggs—Administrative Assistant  
Renee Bade—Executive Director





## ***Serve Idaho's Governor Appointed Commission Members***

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**Kimber Russell, Chair**  
Meridian

**Carrie Reese, Secretary**  
Hayden

**Brady Fuller**  
Boise

**Farhana Hibbert**  
Pocatello

**Charlette Kremer**  
Lewiston

**Ronald (Dirk) Marsden**  
Firth

**Susan Potucek**  
Twin Falls

**Lisa Sánchez**  
Boise

**Kayeloni Scott**  
Lapwai

**Bryan Wewers**  
Boise

**Amy Little, Vice Chair**  
Boise

**Douglas J. Brown**  
Garden City

**Donald Heuer**  
Caldwell

**Kristi Keeler**  
Grangeville

**Bill Langer**  
Coeur d'Alene

**Camille McCashland**  
Boise

**Katie Roberts**  
Nampa

**Colleen Schowalter**  
Boise

**Kristen Tracy**  
Boise

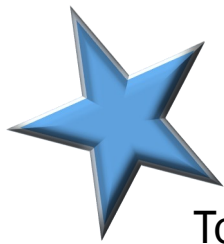


### **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

**Lori Hendon**  
Boise

**Jani Revier**  
Meridian





# ***Thank You***

To the 2020 Idaho's Brightest Star Awards Ceremony  
Friends and Sponsors

**Boise State University—Andrus Center for Public Policy**

**Clif Bar Baking Company of Twin Falls**

**Idaho Power**

**Boise Centennial Rotary Club**

**MQ Images**

**In The Bag Promotions**

**Bade Brothers Building Company**

**Nez Perce Tribe**

**KIVI TV—6 On Your Side**

**Doug Brown**

**Carmela Ramirez**

**Charlette Kremer**

**Idaho AFL-CIO**



**Rachel Garceau, *Master of Ceremonies***

*Weather Anchor, KIVI TV*

**Lt. Governor Janice McGeachin**

**Citizen Review Panels, *Winner Selection***

**All Our Volunteers and National Service Members**

*Representing the Community, AmeriCorps State, AmeriCorps VISTA  
and Senior Corps*





# ***Idaho's Brightest Star Nominees***



## **Teacher/Professor**

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*Michael Haney, University of Idaho, Idaho Falls*

## **Business**

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*Clif Bar Baking Company, Twin Falls*

*Micron Technology, Boise*

*Truckstop.com, Boise*

*Zee Christopher, Boise*

## **Nonprofit/Civic Organization**

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*Garden City Library Foundation, Garden City*

*Genesis Community Health, Garden City*

*Helping Hands Rescue, Lewiston*

*Idaho Botanical Garden, Boise*

*Idaho Mountain Search and Rescue Unit, Boise*

*Idaho State Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Boise*

*Kootenai Environmental Alliance, Coeur d'Alene*

*Meridian Library District, Meridian*

*Ore-Ida Council- Boy Scouts of America, Boise*

*Out of the Shadows Theater, Coeur d'Alene*

*Parma Area Senior Citizens INC, Parma*

*Payette Forward Thrift Shop, Garden Valley*





# ***Idaho's Brightest Star Nominees***

## **Nonprofit/Civic Organization**

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***River Discovery, Boise***

***Snake River Community Clinic, Lewiston***

***SoleKIDs, Boise***

***Valley County Search and Rescue, Donnelly***

***Wyakin Foundation, Boise***

## **Veteran**

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***Scott Ferrara, Rigby***

***Ian Freeman, Caldwell***

***Phillip Hartman, Pocatello***

***Al Lindley, Boise***

## **Student**

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***Bryce Anderson, Pocatello***

***Jim Kinnard, Coeur d'Alene***

***Joeli Leyendecker, Sandpoint***

***August Mussler-Wright, Boise***

***Anna Scott, Boise***

***Lilian Smith, Coeur d'Alene***

***Lucy Streeby, Boise***

***Jordankaty Woods, Meridian***





# ***Idaho's Brightest Star Nominees***

## **Individual**

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***Laurie Anderson, Boise***

***Gary Bergen, Lewiston***

***Theron Case McGriff, Idaho Falls***

***Nicole Cassity, Marsing***

***Danielle Cochran, Cottonwood***

***Dr. Robert Cooper, Boise***

***Jami Delmore, Boise***

***Lara Foster, Boise***

***Dawn-Marie Johnson, Kamiah***

***Megan Larsen, Meridian***

***Robin Long, Nampa***

***Rich Pelkey, Nampa***

***Sandra Pheifer, Nampa***

***Juan Saldaña, Boise***

***Jennifer Smelcer, Boise***

***Daniel Smith, Boise***

***Aundrea Stewart, Caldwell***

***David Walker, Lewiston***

***Eileen Wolcott, Idaho Falls***

***Hiedi Young, Pocatello***

## **Individual 55+**

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***Joel Brown, Caldwell***

***Janet Davis, Boise***

***Albert De Armas, Sandpoint***

***Leonard & Lorraine Elfering, Parma***

***Nannette Heintzelman, Sandpoint***

***Susan H. Jones, Lewiston***

***Cay Marquart, Boise***

***Donna Onn, Meridian***

***Kathy Patrick, Payette***

***Jim Rehder, Cottonwood***

***Roberta Rice, Sandpoint***

***Nancy Rivetts, Hailey***

***Randall Rueth, Parma***

***Arleen Schaeffer, Boise***

***Bob Stiffler, Orofino***

***Maureen Westfall, Coeur d' Alene***

***Bonnie Wood, Middleton***



# About the Nominees

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## Teacher/Professor

**Michael Haney** is always eager to volunteer for any worthy cause. He works with both the University of Idaho and INL to promote cybersecurity education. Michael makes time to promote cybersecurity education to all age levels throughout the community, involving his many students in service opportunities along the way. He was heavily involved in developing the CyberCore Summer Camp, developing the curriculum and teaching students the fundamentals of cybersecurity.

## Business

**Clif Bar Baking Company of Twin Falls** is a private, family and employee-owned company guided by five aspirations: sustaining its business, brands, people, community and the planet. Clif Bar's employee giving and engagement program, CLIF® CORP, supports and encourages staff to volunteer time during working hours. This past year more than 150 employees donated a few days of their time to the U.S. Forest Service-Sawtooth National Forest and the city of Twin Falls parks and recreation where they painted, built, replaced, restored and cleaned the landmark areas.

**Micron Technology** is an industry leader in innovative memory and storage solutions. Its foundation and corporate giving are driven by the Micron Gives organization with grants, programs and volunteer efforts. Micron team members are provided 16 hours of paid time off to use at their choosing; in organized community service, department lead projects, its K-12 Outreach program, raking leaves, sorting food and much more. Micron has contributed more than \$100 million through its foundation since 1999. In 2019 a total of 2,299 Micron team members volunteered 29,861 hours in Idaho at various organizations, and more than 150,000 hours of volunteer time to schools and nonprofits all over the world.

**Truckstop.com** is the largest neutral freight marketplace in North America. Truckstop.com has always prioritized giving back to the community and offers its partners (employees) paid time off to do so. In 2019, tracked volunteer service exceeded 170.5 hours, while non-tracked service estimated in the hundreds of hours. The Salvation Army, The Idaho Food Bank, The Ronald McDonald House, Treasure Valley Bowl for a Cure, The Children's Miracle Network, The Treasure Believe in a Cure, The Boise Angels and numerous other groups, causes and individuals benefit from the support of Truckstop.com and its partners.

**Zee Christopher** is comprised of a rooftop restaurant café, catering, floral services and corks 4 a cure. Chef Chris Zahn and his employees are committed to the community through volunteering time and talent to a variety of charity events like; Savor Idaho, The Chef and Gourmet, A Chefs' Affaire, The Meals on Wheels Culinary Walk About, Boise Walk MS as well as several other community events, raising more than \$42,000. In 2019 alone, Zee Christopher donated numerous private chef events that raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Treasure Valley Community through live auction events.

## Nonprofit/Civic Organization

**Garden City Library Foundation (GCLF)** has made its mission to support the Garden City Public Library in its efforts to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge and strengthen its community. GCLF raises \$94,000 annually to support library programs, including the bookmobile. In addition to the 815 bookmobile

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stops per year, the library hosts tutoring, veteran's assistance, children's story hour, senior fit classes and other activities. More than 67 percent of Garden City residents have library cards, compared with a state average of 56 percent. In fiscal year 2018, the Garden City Public Library's 268 volunteers donated 7,287 hours.

**Genesis Community Health** provides transitional primary healthcare to low-income uninsured individuals in Idaho's Treasure Valley including free medical, dental and mental health care. Additionally, Genesis uses trained community health workers to help patients and their families access other critical resources that impact overall health and wellness, such as food, shelter and transportation. Genesis' total value in healthcare services was \$2,067,372.00 in 2019, which includes leverage of prescriptions in its on-site dispensary as well as the medical services its volunteers provide.

**Helping Hands Rescue (HHR)** is a non-profit, all-volunteer group of animal lovers located in Lewiston, who dedicate their homes, time and hearts to fostering and adopting pets in need. Last year, Helping Hands rescued 438 pets. HHR fosters take pets into their homes that require around-the-clock care from bottle feeding to simply making sure a nervous dog is safe, nurtured, vetted and safe. All programs are carried out by dedicated volunteers who served more than 1,440 hours in 2019, and through donations from individuals who believe in HHR's mission.

**Idaho Botanical Garden (IBG)** made its mission to cultivate, educate, celebrate and grow its community by connecting people, plants and nature. IBG seeks to provide a full garden experience for all ages that enhances the community's quality of life through plant collections, education programs, and entertainment, cultural and community events. Volunteers put in more than 15,500 hours in 2018 and are responsible for crucial work including horticulture, special events, visitor tours and educational programs.

**Idaho Mountain Search and Rescue Unit (IMSARU)** is an entirely volunteer organization dedicated to saving lives through search, rescue and mountain safety education. Volunteers at IMSARU have helped children learn safe ways to maneuver in the wilderness and what to do if lost. They've educated adults on navigation, saved lives, found lost people, and provided a valuable human resource for local sheriff departments. IMSARU wants to help Idahoans safely enjoy the outdoors and come to the rescue in cases where that has not been the outcome.

**Idaho State Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)** describes itself as "a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to preserving American history, securing America's future through better education and promoting patriotism." The 649 members of the Idaho State Society DAR are dedicated to be of "Service to America and to God, Home and Country" by actively volunteering in their Idaho communities, as exemplified by their 38,388 hours of volunteer service last year to more than 50 organizations and events.

**Kootenai Environmental Alliance (KEA)** is Idaho's oldest nonprofit environmental organization and is one of the Inland Pacific Northwest's leading grassroots conservation organizations. Volunteers help KEA fulfill

# About the Nominees

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its mission to conserve, protect and restore the local environment by engaging, educating and empowering local community members in active resource stewardship activities. KEA has long been an advocate for and defender of northern Idaho's natural resources with specific focuses on community sustainability and land use, climate change, water, wildlife and forestry issues.

**Meridian Library District (MLD)** supports the community by enriching lives, igniting curiosity and cultivating connections. Its values include empathy, excellence, relationships and promotion of lifelong learning. The MLD has more than 750 volunteers currently who have contributed 7,000-7,700 hours of service in 2019 which translates to about \$170,600 of service value. Areas of volunteer service include library board, Friends of the Meridian Library, library organizers, outreach volunteers, program presenters, early literacy, summer reading volunteers, greeters, social media ambassadors and side-project helpers, all providing opportunities for citizen volunteers of all ages to contribute to the community.

**Ore-Ida Council – Boy Scouts of America** prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Ore-Ida Council fulfills this mission through quality volunteer leaders and a committed staff. This council is involved in every community throughout the Treasure Valley and provides services such as the Scouting for Food, involving thousands of youth who collect food throughout the area.

**Out of the Shadows Theater** gives anyone with a disability the opportunity to perform in a Broadway musical theater production led by a professional team of producers, directors, costumers and music directors. All the staff necessary to make the performance possible are volunteers who spend a total of 9,000 hours to put together all that makes a successful show, and all the shows have been sold out. The purpose is to give people with disabilities experience and self-confidence to go on in the industry and receive a lifelong boost in self-confidence. It also provides a new perspective for the community to how it views its neighbors with disabilities.

**Parma Area Senior Citizens** only employs three people — the rest are volunteers. These volunteers help provide excellent facilities for Parma senior citizens and the citizens at large. Volunteers are from all walks of life and deliver meals to home-bound seniors not only in Parma, but surrounding towns as well. They serve meals out of the center Monday-Friday at no charge to all who come and hand out food boxes weekly from the pantry. Food is available to take daily from its Feeding America program. Parma volunteers help spread good cheer and thoughtfulness to all they come in contact with.

**Payette Forward Thrift Shop** provides an outlet for volunteerism in the greater Garden Valley area with 23 currently active volunteers. Each volunteer puts in as many hours as they are able, working hard to make the shop a reality. In just over a year the dream of Payette Forward has created a mainstay with an income of more than \$100,000 to help everyone in their community, directly or indirectly.

**River Discovery** provides emotional and physical comfort to individuals diagnosed with cancer at any stage. The organization provides comfort, healing, support, fun and relaxation from heavy times through

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river guided tours. Over the years, several hundred people have volunteered with countless hours of support to help those in need of a friend.

**Snake River Community Clinic** has given free medication help, social services, dental care and help with vision to underinsured and uninsured people in the Lewis Clark Valley and surrounding areas for the past 19 years. Running almost solely off of nursing, pharmaceutical, intake, social services, dental volunteers and interns, the clinic is able to help the community immensely.

**SoleKIDs** — “Develop healthier communities by empowering youth to become lifelong, active and responsible adventure seekers.” Jon and Jamie Stevens started SoleKIDs in January 2017 to provide an after-school running opportunity for both boys and girls in the Treasure Valley. SoleKIDs is 99 percent volunteer staffed and provides more than 2,000 hours of unpaid service to kids, giving them a safe space to learn and grow. More than 600 students receive an after-school snack, a place to make new friends, a chance to experience the world in a different way and a place to learn more about what they are truly capable of.

**Valley County Search and Rescue** work within the nearly 3,700 square miles of Valley County to provide search and rescue aide as well as education to both residents and visitors who spend time exploring the outdoor opportunities Idaho has to offer. Those who are able to assist in the mission show up ready to work for however long it takes to complete their objectives.

**Wyakin Foundation** serves as a conduit, connecting wounded and injured veterans to their successful and fulfilling civilian futures through education, development and guidance. Its program simply would not exist without the tireless support and dedication of volunteers and mentors. The volunteer mentors - each veteran in the program is matched with a personal and a professional mentor - are an important part of each veteran's reengagement with and assimilation into the civilian sector. Mentors spend countless hours with veterans providing emotional support, brainstorming options and troubleshooting hurdles, and offering their expertise from both a personal and professional perspective.

## Veteran

**Scott Ferrara** directly enhances the lives of individuals affected by post-traumatic stress disorder by teaching them a life skill in addition to getting them into one of Idaho's greatest rehabilitation resources - Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing. Scott started and leads the Idaho chapter of the national organization, which is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of active and veteran military service personnel. He has spent more than 700 hours to establish the program in southeastern Idaho, interfacing with veterans and working with the parent organization to bring this unique opportunity to the region. He has arranged six trips that have provided the tranquility of fly fishing, caring and friendship to more than 28 vets and their caregivers.

**Ian Freeman** has volunteered as a middle school football coach, Idaho legislative intern, grassroots coordinator for Marv Hagedorn's lieutenant governor campaign and volunteer lobbyist helping to pass legislation impacting Idaho veterans' lives and access to healthcare for 10 years. Ian put in hundreds of

# About the Nominees

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volunteer hours fighting tirelessly for legislation impacting the lives of Idaho veterans. One significant piece of legislation he helped pass was the state recognition of post-traumatic stress disorder as a qualifying reason to secure a companion dog/emotional support animal.

**Phillip Hartman** is a Desert Storm and Desert Shield veteran who has been steadfast in giving back to his community for more than 10 years, dedicating over 500 hours this past year alone. In 2010 Phillip took over Toys for Tots, which was serving around 400 children. In 2019, Toys for Tots served more than 3,500 children. Philip is dedicated to Toys for Tots, working on it year round even though people only see the evidence from October through December. He serves the children of Bannock, Bingham, Caribou, Franklin, Oneida and Power counties with toys they otherwise would not receive.

**Al Lindley** served in the U.S. Air Force as an electronics tech, then joined AT&T as a project manager building digital networks across the country. When he retired he had years of technical know-how and a deep desire to stay active and involved with his community. He donated two-thirds of the 3 million frequent flyer miles he had racked up working for AT&T to Make-A-Wish Foundation and the other million miles to the Ketchum Arts Center. Since retiring, Lindley has volunteered for the Elks Foundation, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Hailey Chamber of Commerce, the Blaine County Education Foundation, Rotary Club and the Lion's Club. Al has been volunteering in his community for 31 years, and has volunteered more than 700 hours to Camp Rainbow Gold and the Sun Valley Writer's Conference in 2019.

## Student

**Bryce Anderson** has been a lead volunteer at The Idaho Foodbank for a little over a year, completing more than 300 hours of community service. Sixteen-year-old Bryce assists the volunteer coordinator with group sessions in the evenings and also helps with major foodbank events such as Thanksgiving distribution and back-to-school campaign. The work Bryce does as a volunteer is vital to not only The Idaho Foodbank, but to Valley Mission Food Pantry and Boy Scouts of America.

**Jim Kinnard** has been an active volunteer and advocate for the special needs community for the past six years. In 2019, Jim volunteered 130 hours of his time to more than 20 organizations and events, including the Coeur d'Alene Triathlon, Idaho Special Olympics and Team Hoyt CDA to name just a few. A few words from Team Hoyt CDA: "Jim volunteers by pushing a team member with special needs in a racing chair for local community races or supporting others push as he runs alongside the team for extra support... When Jim was young, specialists told his parents he might not walk or talk. Now he's able to provide the opportunity for others to experience racing. He's a role model and inspiration for many and he is an example of how hard work, therapy and determination can help one overcome challenges."

**Joeli Leyendecker** has shown to be a very effective, dependable young academic mentor with exceptional leadership skills, maturity and initiative in several areas of the East Bonner County Library since 2016. Not only is Joeli a tutor for the library, but she also volunteers as a preschool Sunday school helper at North Summit Church and has donated more than 100 hours of her time there in 2019.

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**August Mussler-Wright** is a 14-year-old role model and rock star volunteer. He leads action regarding climate change in Idaho, promotes the benefits of bicycling, and he eliminated 200 pounds of noxious weeds for the GoatHead Fest. August volunteered more than 95 hours this past year among over 10 organizations - Ming Studio, Youth Group-Declaration of a Climate Emergency, Giraffe Laugh and Boise Bicycle Project to name a few. Nearly every Thursday, August dedicates his time to the Boise Bicycle Project, working on donated bicycles that will be made available to children.

**Anna Scott** is described by her peers as thoughtful, thorough and selfless. Anna has been a member of the St. Luke's Health System Junior Volunteer Program for more than three years, giving in excess of 700 hours of service. Anna has served as a St. Luke's junior volunteer in multiple areas, including surgery waiting room, mother baby unit, reception/front desk, pediatric toy cart, Ronald McDonald hospitality cart and gift shop. Anna currently is serving her second term as Junior Auxiliary Officer, an elected student leadership position. Her future is very bright given her passion for serving others.

**Lilian Smith** started a math team at a local elementary school with a high percentage of free/reduced price lunch students when she was in ninth grade. Lilian and another student spent two days a week teaching math to fourth and fifth graders that ranged from gifted to special needs. Lilian also started 12 math programs in 10 schools reaching hundreds of children. She created a nonprofit called Growing the STEM to create math and science programs for students in Coeur d'Alene schools. The response from students, parents, teachers and school administrators over the years has been overwhelming, Lilian exemplifies service to community over self.

**Lucy Streeby** joined One Stone, a Boise-based nonprofit with a mission to make students better leaders and the world a better place, during her sophomore year of high school. Through service, she developed her voice as a force for good. She has grown in servant leadership through her experience and commitment. She leads by doing. In 2019, Lucy was elected as chair of the One Stone Board of Directors, where she leads through hard work, inclusion, and creativity. Lucy has collaborated with service in many organizations including the Boys and Girls Club of Ada County, City Light Home for Women, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Mercy Housing and Lifeways Hospital.

**Jordankaty Woods** has emerged as an outstanding leader throughout her time in the St. Luke's Health System Junior Volunteer Program and has been instrumental in maintaining and increasing the integrity and structure of their program. Jordankaty has served in several departments as a junior volunteer including gift shop, surgery waiting room, information desk, pediatric toy cart and Ronald McDonald cart to name a few. In the 440+ hours of service Jordankaty has given to St. Luke's, she has touched the lives of thousands of individuals and families dealing with an immeasurable amount of complex, personal issues.

## Individual

**Laurie Anderson** has volunteered in the community for more than a decade, and with the Idaho Botanical Garden since 2015, conducting administrative tasks and assisting with garden events. Laurie has volunteered more than 460 hours in the past few years, making a lasting impact on our community.

# About the Nominees

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**Gary Bergen** has been an active volunteer for Twin County United Way, Lewis Clark Valley Chamber of Commerce, Lewiston Civic Theatre, and Lewis Clark valley leadership for the past 12 years. He puts in many nearly 100 hours selflessly giving his time in the past year.

**Theron Case McGriff** has been a tireless advocate for Idahoans in need for 20 years. He donated more than 200 hours in 2019 to individuals or families experiencing devastating events. Theron is one of the four founding members of Breaking Boundaries, an organization that helps individuals in southeastern Idaho who are living with HIV/AIDS, live a life of dignity and independence. He also volunteers for the Idaho Falls Symphony, Community Hospital Charity, Idaho Falls Arts Council, Team INL, Idaho Falls Pride, Prism (INL's LGBT leadership council) and supports other nonprofit events by donating items for auctions/fundraisers.

**Nicole Cassity** has been volunteering in her community for at least eight years. She was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 23 and made it her life's passion to give back to the organizations that were crucial to her recovery. She has provided her services to River Discovery, Casting for Recovery, Caldwell Nights Rodeo, Expedition Inspiration and as a Marsing volunteer ambulance driver.

**Danielle Cochran** began her active volunteer work in 1999 with Girl Scouts, 4-H and as a 4-H Ambassador for Idaho County. Danielle became an EMT at age 16, and started the Drug and Alcohol Trends Education program in Cottonwood in 2011. Her work as the only premier drug trends presenter has a direct impact on the communities of north central Idaho by providing needed education on current and new drug trends both throughout the state and nationwide. Her lifelong volunteerism, and current drive to involve first responders, community members, youth and leaders in the battle against drug usage and current alcohol problems, is commendable.

**Dr. Robert Cooper** has volunteered more than 10 years to Genesis Community Health and dedicated 117+ hours of his time in 2019. He provides healthcare, free of cost, to those who do not qualify for insurance in the community, reducing pain and suffering while showing compassion to all he encounters. Dr. Cooper is always willing to come in early and stay late so that no one is turned away from the services they need most.

**Jami Delmore** has volunteered for more than a decade in the community and is a lead volunteer at the Idaho Botanical Garden. Jami served as president of the Idaho Environmental Health Association for four years and is an environmental health supervisor at Idaho Southwest District Health.

**Lara Foster** is the earnest, fierce and professional director of Sibling Camp at Camp Rainbow Gold, having volunteered there for at least six years and dedicated more than 300 hours in 2019. She is a master licensed social worker with expertise in childhood trauma. Through an experience with a pediatric cancer patient and her sibling, she made it her life's mission to help heal the complex emotions that come from living in the shadows of cancer.

**Dawn-Marie Johnson** has been an active volunteer in Kamiah, Kooskia and other areas of north central Idaho for at least 20 years, estimating more than 500 hours of service in 2019. Dawn-Marie is one of the



youngest members of the Kamiah Kiwanis Club. She also contributes her time to the Kamiah Chamber of Commerce, Upper Clearwater Community Foundation, Kooskia VEST Foundation, Kooskia Chamber of Commerce, Kamiah Community Partners Coalition, Save The Pool Fundraisers and is a 4-H parent, sports mom and Key Club advisor.

**Megan Larsen** has more than 13 years and thousands of hours of service as an advocate for literacy, free access to resources and education. Megan has built a legacy as a library board member and member of the Friends of the Meridian Library. Her efforts have led to increased library usage and a thriving Meridian community. Megan is currently director of operations at Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS).

**Robin Long** has helped to grow not only the funds for the West Ada School District Education Foundation, but also the awareness of funds. For the past five plus years as the president of the education foundation she has worked to serve more than 40,000 students, growing donations from \$30,000 to \$1.3 million a year. Robin also volunteers in local schools as a speaker and volunteers for the Innocence Project at Boise State University.

**Rich Pelkey** is corporal of the Caldwell Police Department and began volunteering at the Caldwell YMCA in 2017 offering informational seminars called Y.C.O.P.S. (YMCA Community Oriented Police Seminars) on a monthly basis. The seminars are free to the community and feature a different topic involving safety, education about laws and addressing concerns in the community. He is a member of many other committees and chair of the Social Responsibility Subcommittee at the YMCA as well, donating about 300 hours of his time in 2019.

**Sandra Pheifer** has spent more than 10 years as a punctual and committed volunteer at her local school library. Volunteering between three to six hours per week she is able to shelve approximately 1,500 library books per week.

**Juan Saldaña** has been a strong voice representing the Hispanic community, increasing awareness and breaking down stereotypes. Juan has volunteered more than 200 hours and 15 years to the following organizations; Jannus, After School Network, the Mexican Consulate, IMAGE de Idaho, Hispanic Issues Training Conference, Hispanic Cultural Center of Idaho, Idaho Voices United, Idaho Out-Of-School Network, Boise Chief of Police Advisory Council, Vision 2C, Idaho Indian Education Summit, Idaho Civic Engagement Project, Idaho Safe School Coalition, City of Boise Water Renewal Utility Plan Advisory Group and the Latino Complete Count Committee – Census.

**Jennifer Smelcer** is a dental student who has volunteered more than 145 hours in 2019 in the Genesis Community Clinic's dental clinic. When she is not working with patients at Genesis, she helps her mother run a home for the people with disabilities. Her ability to know what people need emotionally and physically is unmatched.

# About the Nominees

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**Daniel Smith** has spent five years as a volunteer at the Idaho Botanical Garden. For the past three, he's served as garden ambassador in any volunteer role. Daniel has spent more than 100 hours this year volunteering and beyond 530 hours since 2015. His ability to balance work and school while being an outstanding volunteer is commendable.

**Aundrea Stewart** displays a sense of service and commitment for her community that rises above at just 24 years of age. She chooses to use her time to speak up for children who have been traumatized, victimized and silenced in the Third District Guardian ad Litem program, a nonprofit that advocates for children who have been abused and neglected. Aundrea carries six cases as a volunteer, on top of a full-time job, and takes her position of advocacy seriously all while willing to lend a hand to other volunteers.

**David Walker** embodies the true spirit of volunteerism and hard work. David has dedicated the past 27 years of his life and 2,000-3,000 hours in 2019 alone to Lewis-Clark State College and the Lewiston Civic Theatre, helping out where needed. He is well known in Lewiston by many citizens and organizations for his tremendous amount of volunteer work, also at the downtown library and his church.

**Eileen Wolcott** is known by her peers to do good things for others because it is the right thing to do, not to seek recognition. Eileen has been an active volunteer for two years. In 2019 she donated 400 hours of service and helped grow the NICU cuddler program at Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center (EIRMC) from six people to more than 30. Having worked in the NICU for 15 years before retirement, her volunteer work there is instrumental. Eileen also volunteers at the Idaho Falls Rescue Mission, Mom's Day Out program, Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box, Hands of Hope Hospice and is a member of the EIRMC Auxiliary.

**Hiedi Young** is invaluable to the veteran/military community. She helps promote events and organizations that relate to military service members and veterans in the community and she is available to people 24/7 regardless of the situation. Idaho Field of Heroes, Toys for Tots, POW\*MIA, American Legion AMVETS and Veterans Court are lucky to have had her service the past 15+ years.

## Individual 55+

**Joel Brown** has been an active volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) for more than 60 years, donating approximately 50 hours in 2019. He has served in nearly all capacities within the organization, has attended hundreds of campouts and dozens of BSA National Jamborees over the years, influencing young men to provide acts of service to their communities.

**Janet Davis** has been a faithful volunteer to Genesis Community Health, Idaho Food Bank, Idaho Botanical Gardens, libraries and her church for more than 20 years. She has spent 1,000 hours serving these organizations in 2019, working behind the scenes and caring for those who care for others.

**Albert De Armas** has volunteered for the East Bonner County Library, Sandpoint Branch for more than a year. He has put in 500 hours in 2019, improving anything and everything he can at the library, ready to help 24/7. Albert is a forward thinker and goes out of his way to keep the Library organized in a creative way. When he is not around his absence is felt.

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**Leonard and Lorraine Elfering** have dedicated eight years as a couple to the Southwest Idaho Medical Reserve Corps, racking up 500 hours in 2019. The Elferings have been working on ending user maintenance for the Idaho Health Alert Network more than the past 18 months and have updated approximately 1,000 user records, spending countless hours contacting individuals and healthcare providers to update the system where accurate information can be stored. The Elferings are strong pillars of the Parma community.

**Nannette Heintzelman** supports local nonprofits by giving her time helping to raise money and awareness, Nannette directly helps to feed the hungry, house the homeless and educate young people. Nannette has contributed more than 200 hours in 2019 to the East Bonner County Library District and approximately 10 years to Bonner County Food Bank, Sandpoint Community Resource Center, Bonner Homeless Transitions, Disabled American Veterans and many more.

**Susan H. Jones** was instrumental in the Local History Room project at the Lewiston City Library. She cleaned, organized, upgraded, hauled tons of books out of the basement and prepared the materials that were added to this room. Because of her fine work The Tscemicum Club Idaho local History Room opened to the public in September 2019. Susan has spent more than 340 hours of service at the Lewiston City Library and 25 years as an active community volunteer in Idaho.

**Cay Marquart's** recent land donation to LEAP Charities for Windy Court I will put efficient, clean and stable housing within economic reach for four households. Cay's investments are helping low-income individuals avoid homelessness through strategic, one-time rental assistance. Her volunteer service has changed many lives and sets an example for others to follow. Her volunteer service is estimated at least two hours or more per week over several decades.

**Donna Onn** has served the Meridian Library District by helping with library donations, important side projects for free educational programs and as an outreach assistant. Donna also volunteered with the Talking Book service for Idaho Commission for Libraries and served seniors and older adults in her community as a home delivery outreach volunteer with the Meridian Library. She had more than 500 hours of volunteer service in 2019 and has been a volunteer of the library for more than four years.

**Kathy Patrick** truly believes in senior nutrition and doing everything that she can to help seniors in her community at Payette Senior Center. She always volunteers and steps in to assist other senior centers by sharing her knowledge and experience with fundraising. Kathy has completed 1,040 hours of service in 2019 alone and has been an active community volunteer for more than 20 years.

**Jim Rehder's** willingness to serve, donate time and share ideas provides both the encouragement to act and the physical assistance to do projects and complete activities that make his communities better, donating 750 hours of service in 2019. Over the past 16 years Jim has served as an active member of boards, associations and volunteered with the following organizations: St. Mary's Hospital Foundation Board Idaho Region II, Mental Health Board; Prairie High School Boosters Club just to name a few, and he has been inducted into the Idaho Hall of Fame for serving as a school basketball referee for almost 50 years.

# About the Nominees

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**Roberta Rice** is a highly skilled and knowledgeable volunteer for the East Bonner County Library District. She has assisted in a variety of areas, including helping to manage donations and tutoring in the district's Lifelong Learning Center. She donated approximately 255 hours of service in 2019, and she has been an active community volunteer in Idaho for seven years.

**Nancy Rivetts** donates the largest amount of her time to Camp Rainbow Gold, Higher Ground and Make-A-Wish Foundation, creating emotionally empowering experiences for individuals facing life-changing health problems. She also supports the Sawtooth Botanical Gardens, Sun Valley Center for the Arts and Mountain Humane. For the past 16 years or so Nancy has divided her time between these six organizations and has put in more than 400 hours of volunteer service in 2019.

**Randall Rueth** has been giving a helping hand to anyone in need for more than five years, volunteering at the Parma Senior Center, his church and throughout his community totaling approximating 200 hours of service in 2019. Randall sprays weeds, removes snow, helps to hand out food and serves as a handyman and driver if needed, just to name a few things that make Randall invaluable to his community.

**Arleen Schaeffer** donates her time to the Idaho Botanical Garden's education programs, administrative offices, horticulture team and special events. Arleen has volunteered in her community for more than a decade, donating 168 hours in 2019 to the Idaho Botanical Gardens alone, not to mention the MK Nature Center, Idaho Historical Society and the Discovery Center. Arleen goes above and beyond for her community, striving to make the world a better place.

**Bob Stiffler's** passion to help end hunger in his community and Idaho shines through in his day-to-day activities. Bob is the director of Lifeline Food Bank in Orofino and has been involved with Lifeline for more than 11 years. Bob also served as a representative on The Idaho Food Bank's Partner Advisory Council for four years, providing a voice and representation for agencies in north central Idaho. He is instrumental in getting food to the food insecure in Orofino and the surrounding area, and has dedicated approximately 750 to 1,000 hours in 2019 doing so.

**Maureen Westfall** isn't afraid to get her hands dirty by getting right into the thick of service, volunteering with kids, counting Kettle funds and even updating tedious spreadsheets. Maureen has dedicated 350 hours in 2019 volunteering for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign, the Coeur d'Alene Public Library, senior time and administration at the Salvation Army Kroc Center. For the past five years Maureen has dedicated herself to the community.

**Bonnie Wood** contributes to her community by assisting the staff at the Idaho Botanical Garden providing adult and children's education programs, conservation and sustainability efforts. Bonnie has generously donated more than 600 hours of her time and expertise working behind the scenes toward achieving the Idaho Botanical Garden's mission since 2015.



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